

Green New Deal vs Climate Community Protection Act (A3976/S2992)

March 8, 2019

| Governor's Climate Leadership Act (Green New Deal) | versus | Climate and Community Protection Act A3876/S2992 |
|---|---|--|
| 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030, 70% renewable electricity by 2030 , 100% carbon neutral electricity by 2040, no mandate or long term goal to address the entire inventory of greenhouse gas emissions in other sectors. | Climate and Clean Energy Targets | 100% reduction in human caused GHG emission by 2050, 50% renewable electricity by 2030 . |
| Creates nine (9) member Climate Action Council to develop a roadmap of recommendations to meet the 40% GHG reduction goal by 2030 and an economy-wide carbon neutrality plan with an unspecified timeline. The roadmap will be used to inform the State Energy Plan, which the legislation proposes delaying by one year. The Council is made up of 6 agency heads (NYSDEC, ERDA, NYSPSC, NYSDOL, NYSDOT, NYS Ag & Markets) and one representative from labor, environmental justice and clean energy organization. All appointments are made by the Governor. | Climate Action Planning and Regulations | Creates a twenty-five (25) member Climate Action Council , an interagency body that will convene advisory panels and consult with stakeholders to advise the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and other agencies on the promulgation of statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits benchmarked through 2050, the preparation of a scoping plan to achieve those reductions, and the promulgations of regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The council is made up of agency heads, and independent legislative appointments. |
| GHG emission reduction benchmark set for 2030. There is an economy-wide goal for carbon neutrality but no target date. Under existing law, a State Energy Plan is required every four years. The Climate Action Council roadmap is intended to inform the development of the next State Energy Plan which now would be due by the end of 2020. The roadmap is due by the end of 2019 and updated annually until completion. The Climate Action Council is directed to undertake an assessment of 100% "Clean Electricity" by the end of 2024, to be updated every four years thereafter. | Benchmarks and Reporting | Established GHG emission reduction benchmarks every five years from 2020 until 2050, The DEC is required to issue an annual comprehensive report on statewide greenhouse gas emissions, including emissions associated with imported electricity and natural gas, Every four years the DEC will publish a report measuring progress toward meeting GHG limits and recommending modifications to regulations to ensure the state meets climate and equity goals. |
| Codifies the Governor's Environmental Justice and Just Transition Working Group, consisting of EJ and workforce representatives, to advise the Climate Action Council on the integration of environmental justice and just transition principles on GHG emission limits, mitigation and adaptation, workforce development, and community transitions off a fossil fuel based economy | Climate Justice | Creates a Climate Justice Working Group with representatives from EJ communities, NYSDEC, NYSDOH, and NYSDOL to establish criteria to identify communities for co-pollutant reductions, GHG emissions reductions, and climate related investment opportunities. Climate justice communities will be identified based on geographic, public health, environmental hazard, and socioeconomic criteria. |
| The Climate Action Council is directed to consult with the Environmental Justice and Just Transition Working Group. There is no requirement that a certain percentage of the state's energy funds (e.g. RGGI, Clean Energy Fund, etc.) be utilized to directly benefit communities on the front lines of climate change , through the Working Group could make recommendations along those lines. | Equity | Directs the state to identify the barriers to access to renewable energy resources and energy efficiency for low to moderate income households and environmental justice communities and make recommendations to increase access. Mandates at least 40% of the states' energy funds (RGGI, Clean Energy Fund, etc.) are to be utilized to the direct benefit of low to moderate income households and environmental justice communities. |
| The Climate Action Council is directed to consult with the Environmental Justice and Working Group. The Climate Action Council Roadmap will include recommendations to aid in the transition of the workforce and emerging clean energy industry. | Create Good Jobs with Mandatory Labor Standards | Directs all departments, agencies, and authorities to attach labor and training standards whenever possible, including to all public work and work benefiting from energy subsidies or other public support. Directs state agencies to ensure that prevailing rates apply for construction, operations, and maintenance jobs, and sets standards for apprenticeship utilization and training. |
| State Energy Law requires any energy-related action or decision by a state agency or authority be reasonably consistent with the goals and objectives of the most recent State Energy Plan. Authorizes the DEC and PSC to promulgate regulations to implement the policies, programs, and actions identified in the Climate Action Roadmaps. | Accountability and Action | Requires NYSDEC to monitor and enforce compliance with its greenhouse gas emission reduction regulations. Authorizes agencies and authorities to promulgate regulations to implement the policies, programs, and actions identified in the scoping plan to ensure we are moving towards meeting our climate and equity mandates. Mandates all of the state government to apply a climate and equity screen to every decision, from launching new programs to issuing a permit. Enhances law to provide more accountability via legal standing for members of the public to challenge agency decisions. |
| Quadruple Offshore Wind target to 9000 MWs by 2035, up from 2400 MWs by 2023, Double distributed solar deployment to 6000 MWs by 2025, up from 3000 MWs by 2023, increase large scale renewable from 50% by 2030 to 70% by 2030, deploy 3000 MWs of energy storage by 2030, and up to 1500 MWs by 2025, \$200M investment to jumpstart offshore wind port infrastructure | Other | |